

Message Text

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TAGS: EAGR, FAO, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: FAO FOLLOW-UP TO UNCTAD RES 93 (IV) ON OILSEEDS,
-- OILS AND FATS

REF: ROME 20073

1. IN VIEW OF SHORTNESS OF TIME AVAILABLE BEFORE DECEMBER
17 MEETING AND IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO THIS VERY COMPLEX
AREA, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC GUIDANCE ON
ALL TOPICS WHICH MAY ARRISE IN SUBJECT MEETING.

2. SINCE SUBJECT MEETING WAS CALLED AS AN INFORMAL
MEETING TO SEEK CLARIFICATION ON DIRECTION OF PAPERS FAO
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WILL PREPARE FOR UNCTAD PREPARATORY MEETING ON OILSEEDS,
OILS AND FATS, US REP SHOULD USE MEETING TO MAKE GENERAL
POINTS AND BECOME BETTER INFORMED RATHER THAN DEBATE SUB-
STANTIVE ISSUES IN THE FIELD OF OILSEEDS, OILS AND FATS.
US REP SHOULD STRIVE TO LEARN PARTICULARS OF FAO ACTIVITIES
AND PLANS FOR CONTRIBUTING DOCUMENTATION AND OTHER SUPPORT

TO UPCOMING UNCTAD PREPARATORY MEETING ON OILSEEDS, OILS AND FATS. IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT COMMENTS IN THIS INFORMAL MEETING SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS REPRESENTING A FORMAL US POSITION ON ANY SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE.

3. IN LIGHT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, US REP MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING IN DISCUSSION:

-- (1) WORK OF FAO IN PREPARING PAPERS ON OILSEEDS, OILS AND FATS, AND OILCAKES/MEALS FOR USE BY UNCTAD SHOULD PROCEED IN AN ORDERLY MANNER BEGINNING WITH AN IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH MUST BE ADDRESSED. ONLY AFTER THE PROBLEMS ARE IDENTIFIED AND FULLY ANALYSED SHOULD A DISCUSSION OF SOLUTIONS BE UNDERTAKEN.

-- (2) AT ITS LAST SESSION, THE FAO INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP REQUESTED THAT FAO UNDERTAKE AN EVALUATION OF THE SUPPLY SITUATION, INCLUDING PRICE PROJECTIONS, IN THE SHORT- AND LONG-TERM. INFORMATION OF THIS TYPE IS BASIC TO DISCUSSION OF OTHER PROBLEMS AND ISSUES.

-- (3) TOPICS RELATED TO IMPROVED ACCESS TO MARKETS ARE PRESENTLY THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE GATT AND MTN. WHILE NEGOTIATION OF THESE TOPICS CORRECTLY BELONGS WITHIN THOSE BODIES, THE IMPACT OF TRADE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES ON THE PRODUCTS UNDER CONSIDERATION WOULD APPEAR TO PRESENT SOME POTENTIAL FOR FRUITFUL INVESTIGATION.

-- (4) ANALYSIS OF TOPICS SUCH AS COMPENSATORY FINANCING TO STABILIZE EXPORT EARNING, STOCKING SCHEMES, ETC. WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEED TO INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF SUCH A SYSTEM ON PRODUCTION AS WELL AS ESTIMATES OF COSTS.

-- (5) AN INVENTORY OF ECONOMIC/PHYSICAL FACTORS LIMITING CONSUMPTION AND TRADE IN PRODUCTS UNDER CONSIDERATION WOULD BE DESIRABLE. KISSINGER

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